

2.7 POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES

No expansions or additional activities are currently planned for this site. However, expansion of the Project would require simply extending roads and collector cable to serve additional turbines. If market, technology or other conditions evolve in a manner that encourages expansion, there is potential for adding additional wind turbines within or adjacent to the existing Project boundary in the future, subject to landowner consent and regulatory approval.

2.7.1 Repowering

The first generation of wind energy generating projects in the US and Europe that were installed in the 1980's have only recently begun to reach the end of their use life. The older technology used at these projects has generally proven to be more durable and longer lasting than was originally anticipated. However, at some older projects, repowering has occurred. Repowering refers to the refurbishing of older wind turbines or to the removal and replacement with newer more efficient turbines. Where older turbines have been removed and replaced with newer turbines, this has generally been accomplished by installing fewer, larger turbines. The net result has typically been to maintain the same or greater nameplate generating capacity. In most jurisdictions, repowering requires regulatory approval and review.

The Applicant plans to enter into lease agreements for Project facilities with landowners for periods of 25 to 30 years and anticipates a term of 20 to 30 years for a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for the Project's output. The Applicant has no plans for repowering at this time, however, the decision as to whether or not to repower the Project would depend on factors such as:

- Expiration date of the existing PPA
- Negotiation of new or extended PPA
- Market rates for electricity at the time
- Pricing of new wind turbines at the time
- Landowner consent
- Regulatory Approval

2.7.2 Development on Adjacent Sites

As described above, the Applicant currently has no plans for further expansion on contiguous or adjacent lands. The potential for expansion would depend on landowner consent, market demand, pricing of turbines and electricity, and regulatory approvals. However, future expansion seems unlikely at this time because the Applicant believes the areas for which development (the Project) is proposed and for which site certification is being sought are those areas which represent the best wind resource potential in the area.